

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Applicant thanks the Examiner for total consideration given the present application. Claims 1-12 are pending prior to the Office Action. No claims have been added and no claims have been canceled through this reply. Therefore, claims 1-12 are pending. Claims 1 and 7 are independent. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the remarks presented herein, and earnestly seeks a timely allowance of all pending claims.

OFFICIAL ACTION

Preliminary Comments

Summary of the Personal Interview

The Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner for the Personal Interview conducted on July 10, 2008. The Examiner agreed, after the discussion, that Kimura does not teach all the features of the independent claims. More specifically, the Examiner agreed that Kimura does not teach or suggest calculating camera azimuth and object distance according to said object position data and said digital camera position data as discussed below, under the heading of FIRST ARGUMENT. The Examiner asked for the arguments be submitted in this reply in order for the Examiner to further consider the arguments.

Further, the Examiner may contact Applicant's representative to schedule and conduct a further Interview if deemed necessary.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 5-7, and 11-12 have been amended merely to address informal issues and to enhance clarity. It is intended that the scope of the claims remain the same. Based on these amendments, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding objections to claims 1-12 be withdrawn.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated over Kimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,913,078). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

For a Section 102 rejection to be proper, the cited reference must teach or suggest each and every claimed element. *See M.P.E.P. 2131; M.P.E.P. 706.02.* Thus, if the cited reference fails to teach or suggest one or more elements, then the rejection is improper and must be withdrawn.

In this instance, Kimura fails to teach or suggest each and every claimed element.

For example, independent claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a second position detecting device for detecting latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera to generate digital camera position data from information on said latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera; [and] a calculation processor for **calculating camera azimuth and object distance according to said object position data and said digital camera position data.**” *Emphasis added.*

As mentioned in the previous reply, dated January 24, 2008, Kimura is incapable of calculating the object distance based on two separate position data (said object position data and said digital camera position data). Also, as previously stated in the reply, dated January 24, 2008, Kimura merely discloses a single position GPS receiver to locate one position.

(FIRST ARGUMENT) Calculating camera azimuth according to said object position data and said digital camera position data not taught by Kimura:

While Kimura discloses an azimuth sensor 233 for detecting the azimuth of a camera in a form of an angle from the magnetic north when the camera is directed to an object (col. 38, lines 25-27), Kimura does not calculate the camera azimuth. The claimed invention includes the feature of calculating camera azimuth according to said object position data and said digital camera position data.

Kimura merely discloses an azimuth sensor that detects the camera’s azimuth when the camera is directed to an object.

The claimed invention includes the feature of the camera calculating the camera azimuth by using A) the object position data (latitude and longitude coordinates of the object) and B) the digital camera position data (latitude and longitude coordinates of the digital camera) obtained. Thus, Kimura would need both sets of coordinates to calculate the camera azimuth. Kimura merely obtains a single latitude and longitude coordinates (position data) by a single GPS and detects the azimuth of a camera by an azimuth sensor.

Thus, Kimura does not disclose 1) calculating the camera azimuth. More specifically, Kimura does not disclose 2) calculating the camera azimuth according to said object position data and said digital camera position data. Kimura merely discloses sensing the camera azimuth by an azimuth sensor 233.

(SECOND ARGUMENT) Detecting latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera not taught by Kimura:

In the Examiner's response, the Examiner cites Kimura's azimuth sensor 233 for allegedly disclosing the feature of "a second position detecting device for detecting latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera to generate digital camera position data from information on said latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera". Kimura's azimuth sensor does not detect latitude and longitude coordinates of the digital camera. Kimura's azimuth sensor 233 merely "detects the azimuth of a camera in a form of an angle from the magnetic north when the camera is directed to an object" (col. 38, lines 25-27), which is evident by the Examiner citing Kimura's azimuth sensor 233 for the claimed feature of calculating camera azimuth. Thus, detecting the azimuth of a camera is not the disclosure of the claimed feature of detecting latitude and longitude coordinates of said digital camera.

(THIRD ARGUMENT) Calculating object distance according to said object position data and said digital camera position data not taught by Kimura:

In the Examiner's response, the Examiner cites Kimura's obtained position data for allegedly disclosing the feature of "calculating camera azimuth and object distance according to said object position data and said digital camera position data". Kimura's obtained

position data does not calculate the object distance based on 1) said object position data and 2) said digital camera position data.

At most, Kimura discloses (in the Examiner's cited portions) calculating the position of an object from only a single latitude and longitude coordinates (position data) of a single GPS, not based on 1) latitude and longitude coordinates of the object and 2) latitude and longitude coordinates of the digital camera.

Independent claim 7 is also submitted to be allowable over Kimura for at least these reasons.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claims 1 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-5 and 7-11 are respectfully requested for at least these reasons.

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 6 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Kimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,913,078) in view of Maki (U.S. Patent No. 5,884,199). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Dependent claims 6 and 12 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regards to claims 1 and 7 at least based on their dependency on claims 1 and 7.

CONCLUSION

Therefore, for at least these reasons, all claims are believed to be distinguishable over Kimura. It has been shown above that the cited reference may not be relied upon to show at least these features. Therefore, claims 1-12 are distinguishable over the cited references.

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that claims 1-12 are allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the claims 1-12 be allowed.

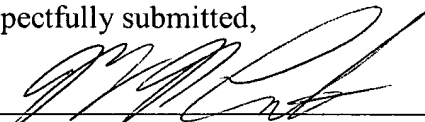
In view of the above Amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Aslan Ettehadieh, Reg. No. 62,278, at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.147; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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